

In the Abstract

The present invention describes an ATM switching module for use either in port or speed expansion mode. The switching module is preferably used in a data transmission system consisting of a number of Local Area Networks LANs interconnected by a hub, which includes a number of LAN adapters respectively connected to said the LANs. A crossbar switch interconnects all LAN adapters and consists of one or more switching modules having a first receiving means circuit for storing a first number of data packets; a second receiving means circuit for storing a second number of data packets; a first outputting means circuit for outputting a first subset of the first number of data packets and the second number of data packets; a second outputting means circuit for outputting a second subset of the first number of data packets; and switching means circuit, coupled to the first and second receiving means circuits and coupled to the first and second outputting means circuits for routing the first and the second subsets of the first number of data packets and the second number of data packets to the respective first or second output means circuits. The routing of the incoming data packets to their final destination is done without modifying the data packet header as a data packet sent by a source of adapter contains in its header the physical address of the destination adapter.

In the Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figures 1-3 and 8A as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84 because descriptive labels necessary for understanding the drawings are missing. Specifically, the Examiner requests descriptive labels corresponding to reference numbers 13-1 to 13-4 and 15-1 to 15-4 in Fig. 1; 202, 203-1, 203-8, 212-1, 212-8 and 220 in Fig 2; 221, 222, 223, 316 318 and 224 in Fig.3; and 800, 802, 804 and 220 in Fig. 8A. Accordingly, Figs. 1 and 3 have been amended to include descriptive labels for the reference numbers identified by the Examiner in the objections to the drawings. (Please note previous corrections submitted with Applicants' Response and Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 dated May 5, 2004.) A proposed set of drawings is attached as Appendix A to this amendment to overcome the Examiner's objections. Following the Examiner's approval of the form of the proposed drawings, Applicants will submit a formal set of drawings that will comply in all respects with 37 CFR 1.84.

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